

BOSTON LOS ANGELES PHOENIX SEATILE

hagens-berman.com

1301 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 2900 • SEATTLE, WA 98101

STEVE W. BERMAN (206) 224-9320 steve@hagens-berman.com

April 23, 2004

## Via Hand Delivery

Honorable Chief Magistrate Judge Marianne Bowler United States District Court Courthouse Way Boston, MA 02210

01-12257-PBS

In re Pharmaceutical Industry Average Wholesale Price Litigation Re:

Dear Magistrate Judge Bowler:

On behalf of Class Plaintiffs in MDL 1456 we are writing with respect to compliance with Case Management Order No. 10 ("CMO No. 10"). In particular, Section II.4 of CMO No. 10 provides that:

> 4. A responding party to an initial document request shall complete production of all documents within 60 days of service of such request. Any dispute over the document request (i.e., over breath or burden) shall be presented to the Magistrate Judge within 30 days after service of the request after the parties have conferred.

The first request served after entry of CMO No. 10 was served on all defendants on March 31, 2004. As we read CMO No. 10 any disputes over these requests have to be presented to you by May 3, 2004.

Plaintiffs have begun the meet and confer process with several of the Phase 2 or regular track defendants. For example we met with defendant Immunex on April 20, 2004. We believe we are making progress regarding production issues. We will not know for certain whether we have any disputes to present until we review Immunex' production and work further on production issues. Any disputes we do have will be narrower than would otherwise be the case absent a bit of time to work out on solutions as opposed to presenting a dispute to you by the deadline of May 3, 2004.

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Thus, we propose where plaintiffs and a Phase 2 defendant jointly agree that it is preferable to work past the 30-day period set for presenting a dispute to you, that the parties be allowed to do so.

We write because we did not want to simply ignore the 30-day period, and request permission to proceed as outlined above where appropriate.

To my knowledge all Phase 2 defendants agree with this request. This does not mean that where matters with Phase 2 defendants are known to be at issue that they will not be presented by May 3, 2004. This does not apply to the fast track defendants.

If Your Honor wishes to have this presented by way of stipulation we are prepared to do so.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Sobol for Steve W. Berman

SWB:taw

cc: All Counsel (via Verilaw)